



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/901,421	07/09/2001	Michael Barclay	2000.053700/TT4043	7362

23720 7590 08/26/2005

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C.  
10333 RICHMOND, SUITE 1100  
HOUSTON, TX 77042

EXAMINER

MOORTHY, ARAVIND K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2131

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/901,421

Applicant(s)

BARCLAY ET AL.

Examiner

Aravind K. Moorthy

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This is in response to the amendment filed on 5 July 2005.
2. Claims 1-25 are pending in the application.
3. Claims 1-25 have been rejected.

#### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

4. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5 July 2005 has been entered.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**6. Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Meehan U.S. Patent No. 6,556,818 B1.**

As to claim 1, Meehan discloses a method for authorizing a user terminal to communicate with a base station in a communication system, the user terminal including a transmitter for transmitting information to the base station, the method comprising:

determining if an authorization signal has been received at the user terminal within a specified period of time for the transmission of the authorization signal, the authorization signal authorizing the user terminal to communicate with the base station [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2]; and

disabling the transmitter of the user terminal providing that the authorization signal has not been received within the specified period of time [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

As to claims 2, 10 and 19, Meehan discloses the method further comprising:

re-enabling the transmitter of the user terminal upon receipt of the authorization signal [column 8, lines 44-55].

As to claims 3, 11 and 20, Meehan discloses that determining if an authorization signal has been received at the user terminal within a specified period of time further comprises:

starting a timer to count for the specified period of time [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

determining if the authorization signal has been received at the user terminal prior to the timer expiring at the specified period of time [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

Art Unit: 2131

As to claims 4, 12 and 21, Meehan discloses the method further comprising:

receiving the authorization signal at the user terminal [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2];

restarting the timer to count for the specified period of time [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2]; and

permitting the user terminal to transmit information via the transmitter to the base station upon receipt of the authorization signal [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

As to claims 5, 13 and 22, Meehan discloses that permitting the user terminal to transmit information further comprises:

permitting the user terminal to transmit information via the transmitter to the base station upon receipt of the authorization signal until expiration of the specified period of time and non-receipt of a second authorization signal [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

As to claims 6, 14 and 23, Meehan discloses that determining if the authorization signal has been received at the user terminal prior to the timer expiring at the specified period of time, further comprises:

providing a signal to disable the transmitter of the user terminal providing that the specified period of time on the timer has expired [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2];  
and

disabling the transmitter of the user terminal [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

Art Unit: 2131

As to claims 7, 15 and 24, Meehan discloses that determining if the authorization signal has been received at the user terminal prior to the timer expiring at the specified period of time, further comprises:

permitting the transmission of information from the transmitter of the user terminal to the base station providing it is determined that a second authorization signal has not been received and the specified period of time on the timer has not expired [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

As to claim 8, Meehan discloses a device for communicating with a base station of a communication system, the device comprising:

a signal detector that determines if an authorization signal has been received from the base station within a specified period of time for the transmission of the authorization signal, the authorization signal authorizing the device to communicate with the base station [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2];

a transmitter that transmits information to the base station [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2]; and

a controller that disables the transmitter of the device providing that the authorization signal has not been received within the specified period of time [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

As to claim 16, Meehan discloses that the device and the base station communicate with each other over a radio communication channel [column 11, lines 18-40].

As to claim 18, Meehan discloses an apparatus for authorizing a user terminal to communicate with a base station in a communication system, the user terminal including a transmitter for transmitting information to the base station, the method comprising:

determining if an authorization signal has been received at the user terminal within a specified period of time for the transmission of the authorization signal, the authorization signal authorizing the user terminal to communicate with the base station [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2]; and

disabling the transmitter of the user terminal providing that the authorization signal has not been received within the specified period of time [column 13 line 55 to column 14 line 2].

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**7. Claims 9 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meehan U.S. Patent No. 6,556,818 B1 as applied to claims 8 and 18 above, and further in view of Lambert U.S. Patent No. 5,642,380.**

As to claim 9, Meehan teaches means for determining and disabling, as discussed above

Meehan does not teach that the device comprises a modem having a software component with software running thereon and a hardware component that includes the signal detector, transmitter, controller and means for determining and the means for disabling.

Lambert teaches a modem having a software component with software running thereon and a hardware component that includes the signal detector, transmitter, and controller [column 6, lines 8-26].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Meehan so that the radio telephones would have included a modem that would have had a software component with software running thereon and a hardware component that includes the signal detector, transmitter, controller and means for determining and the means for disabling.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Meehan by the teaching of Lambert because This is an advantage when a channel is to be shared with signals intended for human listening [column 6, lines 8-26].

**8. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meehan U.S. Patent No. 6,556,818 B1 as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Newton's Telecom Dictionary (hereinafter Newton).**

As to claim 17, Meehan does not teach that the device and the base station communicate with each other in accordance with a Global system for Mobile Communications (GSM) protocol.

Newton teaches the Global system for Mobile Communications (GSM) protocol and its benefits [page 350].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Meehan so that the radio telephones would have

Art Unit: 2131

communicated with the base station/control station using the Global system for Mobile Communications (GSM) protocol.


It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Meehan by the teaching of Newton because GSM ensures interoperability between countries, these ETSI standards address much of the network wireless infrastructure, including the radio interface (900 MHz), switching, signaling and intelligent network [page 350].


### *Conclusion*

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aravind K. Moorthy whose telephone number is 571-272-3793. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Aravind K Moorthy   
August 15, 2005

  
AYAZ SHEIKH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100